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LETTER

• From a Gentleman of the
Lord Ambassador *HOWARD's*
Retinue,

To his Friend in *London* :

Dated at *F E Z*, Nov. 1. 1669.

Wherein he gives a full Relation of the
most Remarkable Passages in their
Voyage thither, and of the present
State of the Countries under the Power of

T A F F A L E T T A,
Emperour of *M O R O C C O*;

With a brief account of the Merchan-
dizing Commodities of

A F R I C A;

As also,
The Manners and Customs of the People there.

Published for Publick Satisfaction.

L O N D O N.

Printed by *W. G.* for *Moses Pitt*, at the Sign of the *White*
Hart in *Little Britain*, Anno Dom. 1670.

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Requies

To his Friend in London:

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LONDON

Printed by W. G. for M. F. R. at the Sign of the Anchor
in St. Dunstons Church Lane. Anno Domini 1670.



To his very Loving Friend T. G.
in LONDON.



According to your earnest Request, you have here a full Account of the Estate of this Country, as much as I have received from very good hands. I wish that it may give you that satisfaction that you request. It is certain that all that have written any thing of *Africa*, have spoken of it as blind Men of Colours, by guess, and by hearsay. The Truth is so mixed with Fables and Tales, that it is not ealie to distinguish them. This Part of *Africa* is much changed within these two hundred years, and the Names of Places and People altered, so that we shall lose our labour to consult the ancient Writers, concerning the present condition of this Country. It might give great satisfaction to the Learned, in the Northern Climates, to be informed of all the Transactions of this unknown World, but that we can never expect, whilst Trading is so much neglected here, and Strangers, especially Christians, do run so many hazards when they enter into the Land, in being one of the Articles of the *Moor's* Faith, that he that sheds Christian Blood in

their *Ramedam*, merits Heaven, and purchases the Eternal Favour of God with this Sacrifice. So great an invitation to Cruelty, may justly stop us, that are not weary of our Lives, from running too far amongst them, unless it be upon a good account of Trading or Peace, and then none dares expose himself alone to the Peoples mercy without sufficient guard to defend him; yet I have seen some *French* Merchants riding abroad without fear, and return safely: I conceive they were known to the People, who are sensible that the acquaintance with forreign Nations, is very necessary for their more convenient subsistence.

The *Jews* are to be seen every where in this Country, they are very serviceable to the Inhabitants, for they furnish them for the most part with forreign Commodities, and make those things that are necessary for them. They never grow rich, but the *Mahumetans* do accuse them of some Crime, to have a pretence to seize upon their Treasure, as it happened lately to a *Jew*, who was grown a petty Prince, he Commanded a Place strong by Situation and Art, called *Darbinneshaal*, there was but one ascent, and that so difficult, that without his leave all the *Moors* of *Barbary* might have spent their daies in the Siege of it; for besides that it is impregnable, it contains so much ground within the Mountain as might very well nourish a thousand head of Cattle, and supply them with Corn and Fodder. This *Jew* had won the esteem and favour of the *Grandeess* round about by his courteous behaviour and good hospitality; for it was his custom to invite all the Persons of Note into his City, and there entertain them very kindly: This dealing made every one, especially the *Arabs*, to love him, and got him a great Name. When *Muley Archid*, otherwise called *Tassalest*, flung himself into the protection of the *Arabs*, and that they had all owned him for their Prince, he was also entertained by this courteous *Jew*, and at a small provocation he was massacred: *Tassalest* found one Point in the Law of *Mahomet* to justify the Murder, which was approved

proved of, and applauded by the ignorant Multitude. Another *Jew* named *Joseph Ben-simon*, a very great Trader, and one that had Correspondents in many Places, did run the same Fortune. He supplied the *Moors* with many Commodities, especially with Powder and Shot, Guns and other Weapons, which he conveyed out of *Spain* by stealth. At last his Wealth made him guilty of Death, for he was accused of Adultery, and although common report pronounced him innocent, he lost his Life, and had his Estate seized for the Kings Use. Thus all the Princes of these Countries do treat this miserable Nation. When they have occasion for Money, they force it from the *Jews*, either by right or wrong. *Gayland*, as I am informed, did entertain *Jews* in *Arzilla*, for no other end but to have some on whom he might prey: He raised a considerable Sum of Money from them on this occasion: About thirty or forty Families of the *Jews* had managed all the Trade of that part of the Country, and were grown rich; *Gayland* consults his *Cadir*, and asks from this deceitful Oracle, whether it was lawful to suffer *Jews*, Infidels, to dwell amongst the *Musulmans*? He answered, That it was not lawful, but that if they would not turn *Mahometans*, he was commanded by the Law of *Mahomet* to punish that contempt with present Death. This sad News frightened the *Jews*, especially when they heard that the day was appointed for their Execution, in the mean whiles they Petition the Sultan, and make their Peace by offering a large sum of Money, all they had gathered in many years. This satisfied *Gayland's* weak Conscience, concerning the bloody clause of *Mahomet's* Law, and made him free them from the great danger that threatened them. You see by that what favour Strangers may expect from this treacherous People.

But before I begin to inform you of my Journey from *Tangier*, and of the Estate of this Count y, I will relate unto you something of our Passage thither. and of that famous Garrison: You may know many Particulars from

them that have dwelt there some years; but from very few you may learn what I have observ'd in that Place: Some things I have taken notice of, which if they were well known in England, and minded, might make it a happy City.

At our departure from *England*, we sail'd near the *Sylly* Islands, where we met with a North-west Wind that blew very fresh a day and a night; we made such Advantage of it, that in that time we were carried near 80 Leagues from the Lands End, into the Bay of *Biscay*, a most dreadful Sea; at the least breath of Wind the Waves swell into Mountains: It is a grievous thing to be tost in this Sea by a Tempest: The danger is able to try the stoutest Courage: I know it by our Passage over this Place, the Wind began to turn about, and then we heard that doleful Cry of the Seamen, *No Near* That begat in us a longing to see the pleasant Shore; but we were not long before the wind favoured us again, which did sometimes toss us till we were come near the Coast of *Portugal*, where we met with these Particulars that I cannot omit:

In a lovely calm Morning, as the Sun began to look upon us, and visit us with his Beams, the Air being clear, and the Weather most pleasant, we spied a Face of a Rising of the Water; the Seamen called it a Spout: I know no other Name for it, unless I call it the greatest Miracle in Nature; The Figure was like a Pyramide, sharp at the top, and large at the bottom, about the compass of two or three Acres of Ground; the Top reach'd so high, that I could not well discover it: I wonder'd at the sight, so did many of the Seamen, who profess'd to have never seen the like in the Northern Parts. I admir'd from whence such a Violence in Nature could proceed; That the Water should leave its own Element, and ascend up into the Air, and in such great quantity, it is not possible without some most powerful Agent: I began to reason with some who esteem themselves of the more refined Souls, and to ask their Judgment about it; but

I found their Answers so dull and impertinent, that I quickly discovered their Ignorance. We sailed within two Leagues of the Place, and had time to behold it at our leisure; as we approached nearer, we found a Current turning that way, which, if we had ventured farther, might have endangered our Lives; but the wind being pretty fresh, and all our Sails open, the Current at such a distance, could not prevail upon us. One thing we took notice of, which seem'd very wonderful; out of the Pyramid of Waters about a hundred Yards high, leapt something that was Bulky; for it made a Plunge in the Water, that appear'd to us, we imagin'd it to be a Fish of a considerable Bigness, which the violent Ascent of the water had sent up in the Air, but then meeting with a lesser and a weaker motion, at a distance from the Sea, it had the power to free it self from that Captivity from which it was hurried, by casting it self again into the Ocean. This happened several times, whether it was the same Fish, we could not well distinguish: This Relation may seem very incredible, but you may have it confirmed by many that venture to the *Indies*, who do often meet upon the Coast of *Guiny* with such Wonders of Nature.

Immediately after this strange sight, we felt the Wind more violent, and saw the Air darken, and fill'd with many threatening Clouds; therefore we prepared for a storm, which did quickly overtake us to our great advantage; for it drove us with such violence, that we made six Leagues in an hour with our Main Sail spread: All that day it continued, and was accompanied with such grievous Rain that I never saw the like in *England*: It was fearful to us that had never exposed our Lives to the Mercy of the Liquid Element, especially when we felt our ship crack under us, and the main Mast bend as a Bow. But the Evening delivered us from all fear; for then a handson Gale of Wind succeeded the Tempest, and dispersed all the fearful Clouds that did surround us, and the setting Sun took his leave of us with a pleasant countenance.

The

The next day we saw afar off a Whale spouting Water into the Air very high for its Pastime: And about forty Leagues off on this side of the Southern Cape, we beheld two Vessels chasing one another; the Wind being North-west, and they making towards the Land, we could only discover their Colours; the one was a *Turky* Man of War, the other a *Hamburger*; the *Turk* overtook his Enemy, and then began a furious Fight, which lasted about two hours; the Guns did thunder on both sides, to our satisfaction that were not engaged in the Peril: We could not discover how they ended their Quarrel, because the Christian Ship maintained a running Fight, and made with all Sail towards the shore.

The next morning we had a sight of the Cape St. *Vincent*, otherwise the Southern Cape, a noted place to all strangers; we were not long ignorant of the Maritime Customs of that Place, which were signified unto us by the Ship-Company, that demanded their usual Fees from all that had never been there before. He assure you, Sir, the Joy that we did feel at such a sight, to be so happily escaped out of the danger of the Sea, made us be liberal of our Purfes, and of our strong Drink; for we were not far from *Tangier*, our Landing-Place, which the next day we discovered, and were most joyfully received by the Governour and Inhabitants, that caused the Eleven Guns of the Town to proclaim our Arrival.

Before I go from hence, I will give you a short Account of this Renowned City. It is situate upon the Declivity of a Hill; the Houses are so built, that from most you have a pleasant Prospect into the *Straight Mouth*: It is almost triangular, and stretcheth it self along the Sea shore: A high Hill overlooks the Town on the North-side, where a strong Castle is built capacious enough to hold a thousand or two thousand men in Garrison. *Don Sebastian* King of *Portugal* fortified it with high Bastions of square Stone: Over against there is a large Bay, where, some say, Coral is to be found.

found. Round about on the Land-side several little Hills do stand that are now fortified with Lines and Forts for fear of the Enemy. A considerable Compass of Ground is enclosed within the outermost Lines. I had the curiosity to take a view of every part of the Town, and its Dependencies. An Officer of my Acquaintance, Mr. T. by name, offered himself to satisfy me: We entered first into the Castle, and there I took notice of many Stones that did bear the Names of those that governed that Province in the time of the *Romans*; these were fixed in the Wall of the Governors House. Out of the Castle I found an old ruined Building, almost all buried in its own Rubbish: A little farther, some ancient Graves cut out of the hard Rock, about four foot broad, and nine in length; by which I discovered the great diminution in the stature of men, that are nothing near so large and so high as in primitive times, Nature still falls into Decay. The *Spaniards* of *Andaluzia* are the least men I have ever seen; our Boys of twelve years old are higher. I took notice also thereby of the great care the Ancients had to preserve their Dead Bodies and Ashes from being dismembered and dispersed, which doubtless did proceed from their Belief of a Resurrection. We continued our Walk farther into the Fields, and there I had an excellent Prospect over all the Works and Forts built by that great Captain for whom *Tangier* may ever mourn; I mean the Renowned Earl of *Trevot*. My Friend related unto me his unhappy Death, and shewed me besides, the Wood in which he was kill'd in the company of 600 stout men, with most of the Officers of the Garrison. He was a man of great experience in Martial Affairs, having done so good service in the *French Wars*, that *Mazarine* appointed unto him during his Life a yearly Pension. The occasion of his Misfortune was this; He had sent into *Portugal* for Lime and Materials for the Fortifications: The Ships being not yet arrived and that Party of Men that came from the Guard, wanting employment, he resolved to make some execution with them upon a Wood that

that did serve as a Retreat unto some stragling *Moors*, who from thence did kill our Scouts undiscovered. In order to their going out, he dispatches several Run-aways of the *Moors*, that lived in the Town, to discover if any Party was thereabouts to keep Guard. They returned with this information, that no *Moors* were to be seen round about the Country, The unfortunate General believes them, yet he had a presentiment of his misfortune, and specially because it was the same day of the year, that the *English* had lost six hundred men, massacred under their Walls by *Gayland* in person. Therefore he was often heard that morning to say, Remember, Gentlemen, that this is the Third of *May*; he did discover some kind of apprehension, which one Major *Knightly* laboured to overcome, by offering himself to lead out the Party; but he would not be thought to be less daring than any man, therefore he adventures out, most of his men being fitter to encounter with boughs and shrubs than with an Enemy, for they were more armed with Hatchets than with Muskets. He was no sooner advanced into the Wood, but immediately there appear as many *Alibays* as Trees. *Gayland's* Army of Foot and Horse it seems had marched all night from *Alcazor*, and (as some say) he had an intention to conclude a Peace. This appearance strook such a fear into our men, that they minded more how to save themselves by flight than to fight, but being about three miles from *Tangier*, and many thousand Horse in the Valley, they were all cut off to three men, who recovered the Sea, and hid themselves in Rocks, until hunger forced them to adventure to *Tangier* again. According to the *Moors* information, some of our men did sell their lives at a dear rate; about forty rallied in a place where the Horse could never come, and began such a desperate fight with the Foot, that filled the Wood, that as many of their men ended their daies as of ours. Had *Gayland* made use of his Victory, and assaulted the Town, it had yielded without resistance, the remainder of the Garrison was so alarmed

at this Defeat. Our Horfe, it feems, were then Commanded by an old Souldier that was grown rich, and knew how to fave his own Pate. Therefore they were not concerned in this fight, but as ftanders by and lookers on. Had the three Troops advanc'd out of the Lines, they might have faved fome of our Men.

My Friend having ended his Relation, we went from the fight of this unhappy place, unto *Charles Fort*, and to the Decline of a Hill, where he told me that fome of our men, to the number of three or four encountred with a Troop of Moors, and took from them their Colours, a Dishonour that had never happened to them before in the fpace of twenty years. We continued our walk round the outtermoft Lines, and there I took notice of the Wifdom and great Skill of my Lord *Tivet* in the Art of Fortification: Nothing could be better begun, and were it continued, the City might ftand in defiance of any Enemy. We had here very pleafant fights into the neighbouring Valleys that are all covered with the natural Tapeftry of Flowers and green Grafs; for this is the firft Spring of the Year, the time that the dry Land of *Africa* yields moft excellent Herbs fit for all ufes. Now when the firft Rains do fall, I took notice of nothing elfe worthy your knowledge, but of a wild Boar of a ftrange bignefs, a little after the Rain had wet the ground, he was turning it up, to feek for fome dry Roots fit for food; he was at fome diftance from us, yet I could judge him to be about five or fix foot high; a desperate enemy if angered: fince I have encountered fome of a leffer fize, and found them to be full of Courage and Strength. We faw alfo fome ruined Walls, the ancient Reliques of *Tangier's* large extent. It reach'd according to all probability, about five or fix miles in length.

My Friend did entertain me with many excellent Relations of the feveral Affairs and Tranfactions of this Place, which I will referve for our next Meeting.

I muft not forget one Story that he affirmed to be true,
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and which I had afterwards from other persons, That in the fatal year of 66, the *Portugueses*, the Dean and Canons of the Cathedral Church of *Tangier* began to rejoyce and to feast their Friends in the Moneths of *March* and *April*, and being questioned about this unusual Mirth, they said it was because the time was now come when *Don Sebastian* King of *Portugal*, who was reported to have been slain near *Alcazar*, should return from his wandering up and down *Africa*: And that he should enter again by the same Gate that let him out; it is now stopt up, at the East end of the City joining to the Sea. This old Tale they did believe so assured, that several of them began to prepare an Entertainment for his solemn Reception in their Covent, and did shew their Book of Prophecies to confirm this Belief; but either these ignorant Fools are mistaken about the time, or the good Prince hath forgot his way home again; for he hath not yet paid them any Visit that I could hear of.

I had the Curiosity to see the Mould in the next place: It is thirty yards broad at the top, and it is built about 300, or 350 yards in the Sea: At the end some great Guns are planted that command the Harbour, and that carry over the Bay. A Story was told to me by the Serjeant of the guard, that will please you. About the Moneth of *April* last in a dark night, about Eleven of the Clock, the Souldiers upon the Guard heard such fearful Outcries and Shouts, that they were all astonished, for it being at such a distance from the Town, and such strict Guards being kept at all the Avenues that none could pass to them, they could not imagin what was the matter, until there appear'd unto them a great Giant; attended by lesser shapes, some like Men, others like Cats, others like Dogs. The Centry asks *who's there?* and is answered with Silence; he threatens Death with his Gun; but the Appearances remained unmoveable until the Serjeant with his Guard was alarm'd with the Centry's angry Speeches; and then they began to dance about, and to offer them many Affronts, and to fill the Air with fearful shrieks
and

and Cries a long while. The next morning all the Guard protested before the Governour that it was no Illusion, and that they had been grievously disturbed that night; but none would credit their Relation, until the next night, that there happened so violent a storm that 100 yards of the Mould were carried and washed away; a thing almost incredible: The Waves could never have had that power to destroy so much Work, had they not been assisted by some Infernal Spirits; for the Stones of the Mould are very large; besides, the upper are linked together with Iron Bars; but the Iron and all the Art of man was not able to resist the fury of the Sea and Wind. That vast heap of Stones so well disposed and settled, was tost away, and carried at a considerable distance. I leave it to you, Sir, to judge of the true cause of the wonder: You'll give me leave to offer unto you my thoughts, and to tell you how the thing stands: This Accident did a little discourage the Overseers of the Mould, but yet they continue with great resolution to repair the breaches that the violence of the Sea hath caused; and maugre all the Infernal Spirits, to build in the middle of the Sea a safe Harbour for our Ships. I wish the success may at last answer their expectation and endeavours.

Now you may expect my Judgment of that Place, which I send to you freely: It is a most pleasant Seat as is in the world; the Air is pure and refined, the Territory good and fruitful, the Climate very moderate, neither too hot nor too cold, by reason of the continual Brizes or the *Etesia* Winds that refresh the Air in the heat of Summer. It were to be desired that such industrious and publick spirited persons did inhabit there as might make an improvement of the goodness of the Soil, and of the Conveniencies of the Place. If wine were prohibited, so many of our English Nation had not found here their Graves. Scarce any die here but by Excess and Intemperance; some having brought themselves to that capacity of Drinking, as that they will make no difficulty to swallow above a Quart of strong

Nantz, Brandy at one time. We see therefore in the most of them Death appearing in their faces long before they die. Their inward parts are burnt up with the hot Spirits of their strong Liquors. They seem to take pleasure to destroy themselves. If this reigning Vice and some others were restrained, I doubt not but that City might flourish in English hands, as much as it hath done in former Ages; for it is one of the ancientest of the world: it was first built by the *Canaanites* that fled from the fury of the Children of *Israel*, and since it hath always been the Chief Place of that Province; the Seat of a Pro-Consul when *Africa* did submit to the Roman Power. It hath been several times destroyed, in the time of the *Goths* and *Vandals* an Earthquake overthrew the old Walls, and tumbled them far into the Sea, where they remain to this day: since by the *Saracens* or *Arabs* this City was destroyed by the Sword, and all the Inhabitants massacred, because it did resist the Power of the Infidels, and by a Sally that was made, had kill'd the Generals Eldest Son. It continued next under the Empire of *Morocco* till the year 1523. when the King of *Portugal* attempted to win several Places upon the *African Coast*.

Thus

Thus have I given you an account of the City of *Tangier*, which might be made as beneficial to Our King, as any City of his Dominions, if Men did but mind the Publick good, as much as they do their sordid Interest.

We continued here some few days, and found a kind Entertainment, especially from the Officers, that are most obliging Gentlemen. But as my Lord's business was not to pitch his Tents in this place, He dispatcht C. W. towards the Emperour, with my self, and another, as well to give notice of His Excellencies arrival, as to procure from him a Passport, in order to His Journey to *Fes*. We set forward with a Flag of Truce in Our Hands, and were met by 20 Horse about a Mile from the Lines. The Commander came up to Us first, and askt from us our business; We told him by our Interpreter, that His Imperial Majesty of *Great Britain* had sent an Embassador to the great Emperour of *Barbary* his Master, a Person of a very eminent Quality, and of a most Illustrious Family, to Treat with him about the Concerns of both Nations. The Captain seemed to suspect the truth of what we had said, and asked if we had any Letters; We shewed him some, but would not part with them: at that He was offended, and lead us about a Mile further behind a Hill where we saw 6 Tents erected for Us, and two old Women miserably deformed, with half a dozen Lancers to Guard them: There was a great Contest among them at our first appearance; and I thought they had intended to use their Weapons. As soon as the Commander in Chief, (that was a little behind) was come, all was calm again, We laboured to know the reason of their contest; and found by our Interpreter, that they were disputing about a Clause of the Law of *Mahomet*: both maintaining their different Opinions and Interpretations with much eagerness. The one was not satisfied to enjoy his own Fancy, but he was resolv'd to impose it upon

on his Comrade, and make him submit unto it by violence. So general is that madness amongst Men, not to allow what Nature cannot refuse a freedom of Judgment; and to be so fond of our Opinions, as to disturb the Publick Peace, rather than to suffer them to be contradicted. An unsufferable Pride possesses their minds. Every petty Coxcomb would erect a Sovereignty in the invisible world of our Fancies, and would see all Men bowing and rendering homage to his Judgement. I'll warrant you if those two nasty Moors had but had a little more breeding, and a little more Authority, they would have been content to have made a Schism about Trifles, and to have endangered Mens lives, in the maintenance of their mistakes. This particular I could not forget, because it relates to our own condition at home.

As soon as the Commander, whose Name was *Zidi Abdala*, was entred into the Tents, and that the Dispute was over, We saw them draw aside, to consult what should be done with Us. The Resolution, as we understood, was, that we should remain in custody, until one was sent to the new Town, to have the Order of *Issalessa's* Lieutenant that was then there. In the mean while they entertained us with all civility, and presented to us their greatest dainties, moist Cheese, Butter as thick of Goats Hairs, as our English clay Morter with Straw; some musty Bread, and for our desert we had some wild Honey; a sad Food to our English Palats. It is like our English French Beans, but black. It grows upon stalks every where in the Country wild. I never was in such a trouble to eat, for our Interpreter advised us not to condemn the Moors kindness by a refusal. We were long at a stand, but He began by his Example. to shew us what We should do: I deceived them all, for with a Crust of our English Bread, that I pull'd out of my Pocket, I kept my Teeth a going. Our Lodging was answerable to our Diet. Our Bed was the cold Ground, our covering a pitiful Tent, Our Bedfellows stinking Moors, and that which was worse than all this, it rained all Night upon us, so that the

Musketo's,

Musket's, a venomous Fly did creep under our Cloaths, to seek a dry shelter, and did sting us to some purpose; I wishing my self again in your good company at the *Kings-Head* at *Charing-Cross*. We were afraid that our continuance should be longer in this place; for the Moors dispatches are but slow. They observe the Spanish gravity in their proceedings with Christians. An expression of *Grandeur*, that well becomes this miserable People. About 2 a clock in the afternoon the next Day, We had a few Horse-men came to us to be our guides to *Salley*, for that was the place unto which we had Order to go. They intended to remain there all Night, because We could not reach *Arzilla* that evening, while it was Day; But our earnest entreaties prevailed upon them, for we pretended our business to require haste, to oblige them to set forwards, which accordingly they did 6 in number, about 3 a Clock in the afternoon: as it began to be dusky, we came in sight of *Arzilla*, a place scituate upon the Sea shore in a plain Ground; before it there are yet the Ruines of an old Haven, upon which the main Ocean discharges the fury of its Waves. It yields a pleasant sight afar off, for the Turrets of the Wall are Painted with many curious colours, and many Storks do make their Nests upon the Battlements. So that it appears to the ignorant Beholder a most pleasant Pallace; but We were never so deceived, as when we entred the Gates, and viewed the next day the curiosities of the Town, the greatest was *Gayland's* Pallace, and the Castle of *Arzilla*, that hath the name of being strong. The Pallace is towards the Sea, and like our old English Houses; there is a little Court at the entrance embellished with Painted Tiles of divers colours: at the left hand, a low Gallery with Rails; before it about 20 Foot long, and 10 broad, where *Gayland* lay in State to receive the Embassadors of Forreign Princes. The good Prince was content it seems with a mean Lodging, the apartments of his Officers were not better. That of his Secretaries did look rather like a Swine-keepers Lodge, than a Dwelling for an Officer of State.

State. We were here received with more kindness than Pomp. The Governour came to visit us, and sent us from his own Table, such Viſtials as he himſelf did eat : here I met with ſeveral *Renegadoes*, one *Engliſh* that had been in the Country, He informed us of ſeveral things. One I muſt not omit : Lateſly when *Gayland's Army* was routed, and the *Chack* of *Angiers* Son kill'd. The City of *Tetuan* would not ſubmit to *Taffaletta's* Summons, but ſeemed willing to endure a Siege, but by his Agents in the Town, He did work to effectually upon the Inhabitants, that they opened their Gates, and yielded themſelves. This good ſucceſs was followed by the rednement of all the Country, which hath a great dependency upon the Mart Town. *Taffaletta* places there a Governour for himſelf, and appoints one of the City to Rule as our Mayors and Bailiffs. This Governour forgetful of his Benefactor, entertain'd ſome correſpondency with them of *Argiers*, which gave his Maſter cauſe to ſuſpect that he intended a Revolt. *Taffaletta* having learnt that by his Spies diſperſed in all the Cities of *Barbary*, and how he was affected, conceal'd his intentions, and came with a flying Party of Horſe towards *Tetuan*. The Governour hearing of his coming, prepares for his reception, and with a ſmall company goes out about a League from the Town, to meet his Sovereign Prince. He met him at the head of his Army, attended by all his Great Officers : according to his duty, he alighted, and kiſt the Hem of his Garment, a Ceremony that ſignifies as much as the kiſſing our Princes Hands. *Muley Arſheid* commands him to mount upon his Horſe ; which being done, He comes cloſe to him, and with his *Stab*, a deſperate Weapon amongſt the *Moors*, He cuts off his Head, takes it by the hindermoſt lock, and there commands all his Army to paſs by, ſhewing and ſhaking the Head now and then at ſuch as he ſuſpected of unconſtancy and unfaithfulneſs. This is a ſign of his great reſolution and courage. The ſight of this Head did not a little terrify the reſt of his *Grandeos*, who are become wonderfully faithful to his Intereſt.

Immediately

Immediately after this Execution He goes to *Tesnan*, acquaints the People with the Traitors Guilt, and he wanted not the applauses of the fawning *Moors*, that are for him who hath the greatest Power. *Taffaletta* places over the City another Governour, a Person most intimate with Him, because it was a place of great Importance: He likewise incurs his displeasure by some misfortune, and ended his days soon after his Predecessour, in this manner. A Gentleman accompanied only by two lusty *Blacks*, comes to *Tesnan*, and asks for the Governour; the People shew him a little Hill, where he was gone to take the Air: thither He comes with all speed, and salutes the Governour, delivering to him some Letters from the *Sultan*, which were received with all expressions of Joy. The poor Governour not thinking that his death was so nigh at hand; He invites the Gentleman to his House, and did not so much as dream of the Mischief prepared for him. All this while the other keeps his design secret, and being entred with the Governour into the House, and sat down upon Carpets, as the manner of that Country is; He discoursed with him about several Affairs; and at the conclusion, when he saw his opportunity, He pulls out of his Pocket a Sentence of Death Signed by *Taffaletta*, which he bid the Governour read. These unwelcome Lines did strike such an amazement into his Mind, that he became unmovable. The other commanded his *Blacks*, that had been careful to follow him to the Chamber door, to come in, and do their Office. They presently take the Cord that they had prepared on purpose; and without delay, fall upon him. The miserable Governour seeing no remedie, begs on his knees the favour to be Strangled with the Shash about his Middle. That satisfaction was granted unto him. Thus he that was intimate with his Prince, and that did flatter himself in his Prosperity, ended his days when he least suspected it. The Gentleman goes next into the Streets of the City with his naked *Cimeter*, and causes it to be Proclaimed by his Attendants:

tendants : That the Prince, for just cause, had commanded the Governour to be put to death ; and that he was appointed in his stead to Rule in that City, and that if any would oppose his Reception, that he should appear. The Citizens approved the Fact, cursed the dead Governour, and received the new with all Honour. An infallible sign of the Peoples great Respect and Submission to their Princes Judgement and Actions, That none did dare to search into his Proceedings, or to examine the Justice of his commands. This expresses also his great confidence and trust that he reposes upon his Peoples Obedience. To dispose in such an absolute manner of their Lives and Fortunes; and in such a powerful City, to think to bring to pass such an unexpected change by such weak Agents in a moment. He could never have ventured to give such a Commission, had he not been assured of the *Moors* condescension to his Pleasure. I have since heard at *Fex*, that there is a Cloud that hangs over this Governour of *Tetuan* also, which may have the same effect upon him, as upon the former. It is certain, *Tassaleta* removes, destroys, strangles, and banishes all that he suspects in the least.

We remained one Night in *Arzilla*, and the next Day we Journeyed through the Country called *Elfas*, that is to say, *the Plow Land* ; It reaches as far as one can discover from *Tangiers* a great number of little Hills do appear, upon which, and in the Valleys the best Corn of *Africa* doth grow. It was the custom of the *Moors* in *Gayland's* time, to repair thither from all parts to Plow and Sow, and every one had a certain Portion of Land appointed for him, which he Manured, and at the Harvest he payed only the tenth part to the King, unto whom all the Land belongs. It is a very fruitful Soil in that part, and yields a great increase, especilly of Wheat. In our Journey this day, which was the most pleasant that we ever had we met with some few Tents, and out of one came forth a little dirty Rogue about 12 years old, cursing us because we were Christians, He spoke so much *Spanish*, as

to name us *Perau Christians*, you Christian Dogs. This People is bred up with a prejudice against Us, and taught from their Cradle to abhor our Religion. It is the Divels policy to keep them thus in their Ignorance, by giving them in their tender years an inveterate hatred of the Truth, and its Professours, unto which their Reason might otherwise incline them, when they attain to an age of discretion, and understanding.

We arrived that night at *Alcazar*, Gayland's unhappy City, where he was overcome, and where four of his Wives were taken for the Conqueror's use: It is an ancient City, such as the most of that Country are; pitiful for the Buildings: It hath a few Streets that are straight as a Line at both ends. There are Gates joining to the Houses, I conceive, to defend them from wild Beasts; for it is not possible to shelter them from Men; the Gates that are at the end of every Street are like our good great Barn Doors, so old that they can scarce hang upon the Hinges. This is that Famous City where three Kings were kill'd in a day, and the Arch Rebel of *Ireland*, *Stukely*, created by the Pope, Earl of *Wexford*, and Marquis of *Leinster*, died also, with those Troops that were intended for the disturbance of *Qû. Elizabeth's* Dominions: But here Divine Justice overtook them, and prevented their bloody Designs. We had the Governours House for our Lodging; for it is the Custom in all those Countries to repair to the House of the Chief Person in the Place, who is prepared for your Entertainment; having, as all the Eastern People, a Guest-Chamber or Room to keep Strangers dry. Every one brings his own Provision with him. There are no publick Houses of Entertainment, or Inns; but he that is a man of any esteem, is bound to receive strangers. Now the Custom is amongst the *Arabs* that live in Tents, That when a Stranger comes, and desires to be received, he stands at a distance over against the Principal Tent praying to *Mahomet*: The Master when he sees him, either sends for him, or goes himself to fetch him

him in for *Mahmet's* sake, whether he be poor or rich; according to the custom of the Ancient Fathers, who were thus hospitable to Passengers.

We found here very much Civility, when our Business was known and divulged, many persons of quality flock'd together to bid us welcome; for this Country desires nothing more earnestly than to entertain a good correspondence with the *English*, for whom, above all Nations, they have a particular kindness and a great esteem, because their Slaves are so well treated amongst us, and because we bow not to Images, which they abhor. Amongst those that did visit us while we were at Supper, a famous Negromancer came in to see us, and bid us be of good cheer, and that he desired to shew his respect to us by a Dance and Musick. He had under his Arm a long Instrument with a Wire instead of a String, upon which he plaid most dexterously. He had no sooner begun, but in steps an ill shap'd Rogue as black as the Devil, followed by a furious Goat and a Dog; these three began the Dance, the Goat and Dog striking the Ground according to the sound of the Instrument. The Sport had been pleasant, had we not been informed by a Stander by that these shapes were not real, but that they were Devils or Evil Spirits that did thus appear at his Command. This Fancy did make us desire that the Pastime would end a little sooner than otherwise we would have done. The Negromancer perceived it; therefore he concluded; and all these Appearances vanish'd to our Eyes, the Door being then shut, leaving such a horrible Stench as made us all rise to seek the open Air to breath; Which the Negromancer laboured to excuse, telling us we had affronted his Devils, by expressing a Dislike of their Kindness, and therefore we might thank our selves if they had left such an ill Sent to punish our Contempt; We told him by our Interpreter, that we did not desire such Entertainment, and that the Devils Company was never grateful to us. This Accident made us fall to our

Prayers,

Prayers; and be more devout than otherwise we should have been : We afterwards inquired what this Fellow was ; some told us, that his Name was *Zidi Lamed*, a man highly esteemed amongst the *Moors* because of his Art in Negro-mancy, and his Acquaintance with Familiar Spirits, by which he knows the News of all the world, and foretels many things to the People which they are desirous enough to know ; so that he is consulted as an Oracle in all urgent occasions. There are many that study the Black Art, but this man was the most eminent. As he went from us, he let fall some threatening words, which we did not understand till the next day, that we all fell from our Horses and bruised our selves. That night we forgot not to say our Prayers, and to recommend our selves to Gods Protection. And as soon as it was day we departed towards *Saley*, and that night we came to the Mountain called *Istibel*, where one *Beleif* commands, as being his Inheritance ; I should be too tedious to write every Accident that happened to us in the way. Our next Stage was *Sarfar* upon the River *Sboon*, where one of our Guides, a *Spanish* Renegado shewed me the Place where a great Battel had been fought between *Gayland* and *Hamdel Hag*, otherwise called *Bembouqua* ; in which he told me he did fight for *Gayland*, and was present during the Encounter. The two Princes were at variance for their Limits, which caused them to expose the Lives of their Subjects, and to give many Battels : this that was fought upon the Banks of the River *Sboon*, was a bloody one, and fatal to *Bembouqua's* Interest through his own eagerness ; for he being with his Horse and Foot beyond the River, ventured over to charge the Enemy ; *Gayland* keeping his men close, expecting his Coming, at last he gave such a furious Onset, that the *Santo's* men gave back with much loss ; notwithstanding the Generals Courage rallies them and brings them on again ; here Victory was long uncertain ; sometimes one Party flies, sometimes the other ; and had it not been for a fresh Supply of Men led on by *Gayland's* second Brother, which came at that

that moment, he had lost the Day; but his Number increasing with this unexpected Retrait, and by consequence, his mens hearts being thereby filled with new Courage, he had not much difficulty to overcome his Enemies, who had at their Retreat two sorts of Enemies to fight withal, *Gayland's* men, who pursued with all Fury behind, and a deep River before; for the Bridge over which *Bombonqua* saved himself was broken down. Many were killed that day; but more were drowned, in all of the Saint's men about 5000 stout Souldiers. This Success of *Gayland* caused many of the Saints Subjects to revolt to him, and to set up his Banner in their several Jurisdiccions: So that he became by this Battel a most powerful Prince, very dreadful to his Neighbours. This happened in the Year 1663.

By the way as we passed, we had a sight of several *Spanish* Garrisons upon the Sea-side: *Larache*, where *Gayland's* Power received a very great check by a handful of *Spaniards*, who made such a brisk Sally upon them, that they kill'd a good number of his Men, took *Gayland's* Brother, and hang'd him up upon their Walls: A bold Action! that rendered them odious to the Country and to *Gayland*; so that he never would have any peace with them.

The next is *Mammora*, a noted place in *Spain*; for there they banish the malefactors. As we were over against this Garison, our Company being advanced a little before, there happened an Accident that scar'd me more than it hurt me, a Horseman having spoken with our Guides, who told him our business, and who we were, came up to me, having but one Moor with me, and brandish'd his Lance as he rid tilt at me; I understood not his meaning, and thought he had intended Mischief, yet I was afraid to discover my Fear, and therefore I would not put myself upon a posture of Defence till I felt his Weapon; but I was surpriz'd, when instead of a Blow with his Lance, which I expected, seeing him

him galloping at me, he most dexterously turn'd the Point, and laid the other end upon the Pommel of my Saddle; a great expression of Civility and Kindness amongst them, as I understood by our Interpreter; resigning by that Action, the Weapon into the hands of him whom they treat in that manner: When I saw his Intentions were not evil, I saluted him according to our fashion: after a little Discourse with the Moor, he went his way, and I made up to my Company.

We came through the Country of *Elhatat*, a Plain Ground, so named from that Tribe that dwells there, and within three days we arrived at *Saley*: The City stands very pleasantly; it is divided into two parts, a River passing in the middle of the City. It is two Miles about, having a very strong Castle at one end, with a scurvy Harbour for Ships before it. We were led directly to the Governours House, where we met with a kind entertainment, especially *C.W.* who was well known to the Town. Here we found many *English* Slaves, taken in *English* Bottoms by the Pyrates of this place; some were newly brought in. We gave them all the assistance our Pursets or Favour could afford, and put them in some hopes to obtain their Freedom, if my Lord was so happy as to obtain a firm Peace, a joyful news to those poor wretches, that had left all hopes of returning home to their beloved Soil.

Here we remained some days, viewing the ancient Monuments of the Town; that is possessed by the *Arabs*. And here we took notice of the miserable condition of the *Barbarians*. There are a great number of them in the Country round about, dispersed up and down. The *Arabians* are their Lords, having Power of Life and Death over them. Each *Arab* hath his particular Servants that he sends to Till his Ground, and from him requires so much Tribute: either in Corn or Money every year. Sometimes he rides about

to view his Territories, and then his Tenants are bound to provide him with all necessaries : Besides, he takes from them what he pleases, and Sells them and their Family, and disposes the poor *Brabbers* as he lists. For as the *Arabians* are entred into the Country by way of Conquest, they accordingly behave themselves there as Conquerors, treating the Inhabitants as Slaves and Captives. But at the death of the last King, they freed themselves from the *Arabian* Tyranny, and under the Conduct of several Princes did subdue the *Arabians* themselves. *Gayland*, *Bembongua*, and several others, had many successful Battles with the *Arabs*, their Masters, for near Twenty years; and because of some Divisions amongst them, and that their Lawful Prince was slain, they could not recover their former Estate, until *Taffaleita's* late Victories over the *Barbarians*, *Gayland*, and the rest. When the Governour of this place was acquainted with Our business, He freely gave us a Pass through his Government, for he commands much of the Country round about almost as far as *Fez*; unto which City, We set forward next through a Tribe of the *Arabs*, called *Moukzar*; and by the way we desired to know the meaning of several Pillars and Monuments, Our Guards told us, that they were set up by the Army of the *Arabians* that came from the East, when they over ran this Country, in memory of some signal Battles given in those places against the Inhabitants; for as amongst the *Israelites* they give Names to several places, according to the accidents that happen there. We thus past without any molestation, being sometimes obliged to shew our Passport to the Chief Men. As we were come about 10 Leagues on this side of *Fez*; We past through a delicate Champaign Ground, over fruitful for such lazy Inhabitants as the *Moors*. In a pleasant Valley about 2 Leagues further, We passed by above a thousand Tents, distinguished by their several Families, which were separated at some convenient distance, round about many thousand head of Cattle were a feeding. Now these that live in Tents are the *Arabs*, the People that came from

from *Arabia* by the solicitation of the ancient *Sultan* of *Morocco*, who made use of their assistance to recover his Dominions from an Usurper, that in his absence had revolted from him; since they have over-spread all this Country: and as their manner is, they live in Tents, and as the *Nomades* remove from place to place with all their Substance. They are distinguished into several great Tribes, as the Children of *Israel*, whose Brethren they are: for they are the *Saracens*, *Agarens*, or *Ishmaelites*, or the Posterity of *Ishmael*, the Son of *Abraham*. Their manner of living may be a very good Commentary to several Passages of the Old Testament. The chief Tribes are named *Helidanquella*, *Uleideses*, *Spenet*, *Elholot*, *Monkar*, *Shregga*, *Haina*, *Soubba*, *Dama*, *Themsna*, *Helseela*, *Elanyad*, &c.

These are divided into Families, Governed by the first born, who hath a jurisdiction over the several Members. They have all a dependency upon him, and received from him their livelihood. He is their Captain in War, their Father in Peace, their Judge when any difference arises in his Precinct. Therefore, all their Tents do keep close to him; His Tent is planted Westerly, being bigger and handsomer than the rest: then the others are erected on both Hands, as a half Moon, open towards the East, aswel that they might salute the Rising Sun, for whom they have a great Reverence, as that they might look towards *Mecha*, the place of *Mahomet's* Birth, for which also they have a particular Devotion. In the middle of the Tents, there is one which is appointed for their Meeting to Prayer. This Barbarous People have that good Instinct to set apart a place for the Worship of God. Where there are many hundred Tents together, a Priest also, had in great esteem amongst them, is set a part for that Service; unto some they appoint 100 Dollers, to some more, to others less, according to their Number. His Office is to Read Prayers 5 times a day, unto which he calls the People, standing at the Door of the Tent with his *Akai ila Mahomet refni ila*,

and many other expressions of Humility and Devotion : His Office also is to teach the Children to Read and Write *Arabic*, and to instruct them in the Law of *Mahomet*, An excellent Custom, but ill applied. By that means, these *Talpas*, for that is their names, do render themselves serviceable, and do train up their Children in awe and respect of their Order, and of Religion, Imprinting in their tender minds those Impressions, as may make them for ever faithful to *Mahomet*, and his Interest. That is the cause that every one is so Devout, and that Prophaness finds such little entertainment amongst them. It were to be wisht that our *English* Clergy would practice the same Custom, and take into their tuition the Children of their several Parishes ; We might then hope that the next Generation of Men would be less Atheistical and Vicious, and more Devoted to the Service of God, and their Prince. Their constant Preaching should not hinder the Catechizing of Youth. I am sure that would be the means to expel Ignorance which reigns in Cities, and Country. It would also be the means to settle their Interest in the Kingdom, and to raise their Holy Order in the esteem and favour of the People, from whence (it is unhappily fallen by their own miscarriages. Besides, these ordinary sort of Priests, there are others called *Elfters*, Itinerary Preachers, who are esteemed Learned in the *Mahometan* Law ; these do upon the Solemn Days, and when they are required, ascend up into a Pulpit, and there they Expound a Text of the *Alcoran*. It is wonderful to see the Veneration, and the respect that is paid to these Men. There is nothing too precious for them, no company too Honourable. They are lookt upon as so many Gods amongst the People, and received with the greatest expressions of love and kindness. I did often wish that our *English* Clergy were as happy as these Men. But that may be desired, but never expected in our days.

Several other sorts there are; some called *Hager*, or *Sauis*; they are those that have visited *Mahomet's* Tomb. Of their other Orders several have written. Now the chief of every Family appoints a *Thaloub*, to instruct his People, and Pray for them. If any difference arises between them, or any injury be done, they come before Him: His Sentence is a Law to them; so great is the privilege of the first born. They have no Judges, but in Cities: Those that live in Tents, do submit to the pleasure of their Chieftain: I saw a Fellow, that in his anger had stab'd his Comerade in the Belly, the Wound was not so Mortal, but he came immediately before the chief of the Family, who presently order'd him to be sent for, to pay for his Cure, and 10 Dollers besides; and then taking a sound Stick, commanded him to lie upon his Belly, which was immediately done; then he gave him 10 blowes upon his Breech. The Fellow having receiv'd his Punishment, made a profound Reverence, and seem'd to be as contented as ever, only for his 10 Dollers; He desir'd his Party to compound with him. Another had stolen a Hen from a *Thaloub*, with some other trifles: the crime being known, He was sent for, and all the stolen Goods, that weigh'd about 10 Pounds, were hung at his Ears, through which wide holes were made; and he condemn'd to stand thus at the entry of their *Mosque*, or Tent, consecrated to Prayer. I have seen many other Punishments of the like nature inflict'd. Their ordinary is the *Basinado* for small offences; *Empalling* for grievous; and for some they Burn, they Hang, Strangle, and Poyson. There is another manner of Execution very strange; they put a Fellow naked, only something about his middle to hide the Privity, which they can never abide to behold. They shackle his Feet, so that he may only go, and then they let loose upon him the Boys and Children, who with their sharp Canes, do make him bleed to death, pricking him, till he gives up the Ghost: this is the most cruel death practis'd amongst them.

One thing I cannot forget of their Customs. If any kills another, the next Brother or the next Kinsman is bound to seek the Murderer out, and to kill him where ever he meets him. Besides, they swear to maintain their Captains, and to die in their Quarrels. So that one Company of Tents many times do fall out with another. For they are disposed of in the Country of so many little Villages, making the appearance of a Town.

These *Arabs*, by what I have said, you may perceive that they hate the Government of *Barbary*, and love a free Life. Since the last Emperour of *Morocco* that was Massacred by his Servants, never any had any rule over them, but they maintained a kind of an *Aristocracy* amongst themselves, until *Muley Arseid* cast himself into their Protection, when he fled from his elder Brother *Muley Mohammed*. He behaved himself so bravely, and did ingratiate himself so cunningly with them, that they made him first their General, or Great *Moukadem*. In which Imployment he had wonderful Success against the East *Arabs*: a People that cannot endure the West. After he led them against his elder Brother, and enriched many of them with Plunder and Spoil; That made them proceed to this Election, in which he was so happy, that all consented to make him their King or Emperour. This was his first rise after the death of his elder Brother, that he took Prisoner, and then kill'd. The chief of the Kingdom of *Taffaletta* made him also their Sovereign Prince. He hath a younger Brother named *Muley Zidan*, and that he might oblige the People to a greater obedience, and more fidelity, he hath given out, that he is of the Race of their Prophet *Mahomet*, and that according to that Law none ought to Command in Chief, but one lineally descended from *Mahomet*. This Perswasion prevails much upon the superstitious *Moors*, and disables them from resisting or opposing his proceedings, for fear of their Prophet, makes them

them revolt from their former Governours, and submit to his Dominion. He hath Conquered all *Gayland's* Country, and the Territories of *Bembouqua*, called *Sin Mohamed*, *Bombquer del Hago*, the King of *Morocco*, who had been an Usurper. The Kingdom of *Sons*, the Countries where these Tribes do dwell, *Themsna*, *Heldedla*, *Monkter*, *Hiania*, *Widobar*, *Elangad*, *Heldouquella*, *Uleidozin*, *Dama*, and many more; all making up 43 Tribes, with the Country of *Hel Ishbel*: All these Kingdoms and Places do acknowledge him for their Prince. Only some Petty Lords of the Craggy Mountains do resist his Power. Against these he is now marched with his Army, and as we hear, hath reduced some to Obedience, having executed great Numbers of them in a cruel manner, to terrifie the rest. These are *Barbari*, the ancient Inhabitants of that Country, who have been forced to submit to the yoke of the *Arabians*; yet in these latter days they were become Masters over them, and did use them very hardly when their last Emperour was kill'd; for then they fell into Divisions. *Alcaide Issa*, a great man amongst them, commanded the chief of their Tribes: Next was *Zidi Douckag*, with *Zidi Bonmbedi*. All three had under them *Sheirs*, Governors of Tribes, that they had engaged in their Parties; but when they fell out amongst themselves, *Bembouqua* that commanded the great Country called *Helishbel* and *Fex*, where the *Barbarians* do live, took the advantage, and made War upon the *Arabians*, and reduced them to Obedience, using them in the same manner as they did before his People, as so many Slaves; which made them put themselves more willingly under one Head, that by his means they might free themselves from the *Barbarian* Bondage. The Case here is much like that of the Children of *Israe*; by *Joshua's* means they conquered *Canaan*, and did domineer over the Inhabitants; but those of the Sea-Coast could not be driven out: when therefore they saw an opportunity, they did revenge themselves upon the Posterity of *Israel*, until *Israel* made *Saul* their King, and

and after him *David*, then they returned to their former Command over the Inhabitants & the Country round. Thus is it with their Brethren the *Arabs*; they conquered all this Country, and made the Inhabitants bear the Yoke; but sometimes those that live in strong Places and high Mountains, do revolt from them, and give them no little disturbance, as they have done in these late years under several great Commanders. A memorable Battel was given about *Saley* between them, where ten or twelve thousand *Arabians* were killed, and their Families and Cattel taken by *Bembangua* at the River *Widlobar*.

Now these *Arabians* do never mingle themselves with the *Brabbers*, thinking themselves an abler Generation of men; neither doth one Tribe mix with another: they observe in that the Law of *Moses*. At the Division of the Land, they had for every Tribe a parcel of Ground appointed, in which they live up and down in their Tents, never going with their Cattel out of their own Limits, unless some urgent occasion calls them; as when they fight: Then all the Tribes join, and form an Army: over which they elect a General. Now every Tribe keeps a Record of all the Members or Persons that do belong unto it, and therefore every one is able to give an account of his Ancestor. All the Royal Blood pretends to be come from *Haly*, *Mahomes's* Son in Law. The *Arabians* acknowledge none other for Prince, but he that is believed to be thus descended. *Taffalet* or *Muley Arsheid* is so; his Ancestors have long commanded in the Kingdom of *Taffalet*, being entred there with the Conquest of that Country.

In our Journey to *Fez*, we met with many thousand *Arabs* removing with their Substance from place to place, and they were the Tribes of *Olaidez* in *Dama Saubba*, amongst whom we lodged one night; and were invited by one of the *Sheirs* to Supper: We had a Table spread with all the Variety

riety of that Country, and very good Water to drink, mixed with a sweet Stuff much like our Mead. Our Seats were Carpets, our Table the Ground. When we came at the Gate of *Fez*, we were commanded to light off of our Horses, because no Christian is to ride on a Horse in that City. You may expect an account of this City; but that I reserve for some other time, when I can write to you. I think this Letter is long enough to weary your Patience. At our Arrival, we found *Taffaletta* gone with his Army against some *Barbarians* in the Kingdom of *Sous*, beyond *Morocco*: And it is reported here that he hath obtained a great Victory over a considerable Number of them, and that the rest are retreated into the Mountains. We hear that he will be here within a few Moneths, and then we hope to have our Dispatches: Some are sent to acquaint him with the Honour our King hath done him, to send him a Person so eminent in our Nation, and of that great Wisdom. In the mean while, we have here a Civil entertainment, and have liberty to divert our selves in hunting the Wild Boar with some Persons of Quality in this Place, who love the Sport, but make no use of the Flesh. I have seen abundance of rare things in this City; for it is a very sumptuous one, because of the Quarries of Marble that are here.

You see, Sir, that I have leisure to write a long Letter; it is to satisfy your Curiosity. I send it to you by one that goes from hence to *Tangier*, and there my Friend hath promised to take care of any thing that I shall send. God keep you, and send us a happy Meeting.

Tours to Command,

Fez, Novemb. 1. 1669.

S. L.



A Brief Account of the Native Commodities of *AFRICA*.

Africa yields most excellent things fit for the use of man: The Ground may dispute in Fruitfulness with any part of *Europe*: It only wants Rain to moderate the heat of the Climate; when the showers come, every where green Herbs appear amongst the driest Sand. Here are excellent Simples fit for Physick. It hath often been observed that many Creatures when offended by their Enemy, and wounded, have sought after some of these Herbs that are proper to cure and heal them; Gods Providence hath therefore planted that part of the world with such good and healing Roots as might oppose the Malice, and prevent the Mischiefs of Venomous Creatures; whereof here are a great number, especially in the Land; and in the Woods there are great Numbers of Scorpions as black as a Coal, Serpents that cast themselves from Trees and surprize and wound the unwary Passenger: Here are venomous Aspes, whose least touch brings present death; let it be never so small; for it conveys its Poison secretly into the Veins, through the least wound, and that infects the next blood; thus the Infection spreads by degrees until it reaches the heart. Here are many Basilisks; a dreadful Creature, that kills by the
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infection of the Air. There is also another kind that causeth a present driness in the Palate as soon as it hath wounded the man, and therefore called by the Ancients *Dysfas*. The Inhabitants speak of a new sort of Creature that they see almost every Year; for when all the Creatures do come to the fresh Springs and Fountains, the heat carries them to unnatural Copulation, and from these extraordinary Conjunctions do proceed Monsters that are of several Species, which have not the power to propagate or to increase. Beyond the City of *Fez* there is a great Wilderness full of wild Beasts and Fowls. The *Arabs* do live in all the fruitful places; but in the Land nothing is to be seen but Mountains of Sand, that are very dreadful in a storm of Wind, because it carries and transports them from place to place, and buries the Passenger under the weight of it alive. The Commodities of this Country are very many; it were a happy thing to have a Prince there that did command all the Land, and that were a Lover of Trade; then *Caravans* might go safe from place to place without fear of robbing; But the nature of the *Arabs* inclines them to thieving and violence; so that although one should have a Passport from the Prince, it is a great hazard, if you be not provided with a good Guard, that you will be set upon by these Rogues, who are notwithstanding, in their esteem, the best Gentlemen, and the noblest in the World. The chief Commodities are Hides, they kill as many wild Bulls and Cows in the Land, as they of the *East Indies* do in their Plantations. Besides Goatskins, *Maroken*, or *Spanish* Leather, that are excellent, here is great store of Honey; the Bees do increase in the Woods and Mountains, and as there are excellent Flowers that grow in all the Valleys, so naturally the Country is full of Bees and Wax. There is also a kind of Silk Stuffe that is made by the Inhabitants of the Sea-shore, of the Bark of Trees. Here is also Raw Silk; the Country breeds silk-Worms in great abundance about *Fez* and *Morocco*. Here are many other things useful to the life of man.

if Peace were established in the Country, and with our Nation, then we might fetch from *Gwiny*, and the *Negro's* Country, the rich commoditie of Gold dust.

Now every Month some of the *blacks* do adventure to *Fez*, with Camels loaden with that superfluous Earth, of which they have too much, and carry back other trifles that are esteemed amongst them. Some say that the Sun hath burnt the Sand of the Wilderness in some places, and that it is become perfect Gold. It is certain, that in the Sandy Deserts the *Black* do gather up Gold; This Gold is the best in the World, it is as pliable almost as Paper, and doth not so easily consume and waste. If some would adventure in the Land, to search out the Country, and bring a just and a true Report, he might discover many things which our Traders might improve to their advantage. In the Wilderness there are great store of wild Asses, Horses, Lions, Jaccals, &c. It is wonderful of this last, that smells a dead Carcase many Miles; and towards the Night, they run howling out of their Dens and Caves in great numbers right to the place where lies their Prey. The Lions and Leopards, and other furious Creatures are presently awakened with the noise, and therefore they follow them always. A Jaccal is a kind of a Fox, bigger and longer, just of the same shape, but for the most part of a blackish Gray, as high as a good Mastiff Dog. In the Night they surround the Tents of the *Arabs*, and if they meet any disarmed, he serves to satistie their hunger; for then such a company do over power him, that he is overcome, and torn in pieces in a moment. Here are also many Apes and Baboons. The Apes do dwell in Forrests and Woods on the tops of Trees: Sometimes they venture down in the Valleys in Troops, 6 or 7 hundred at a time, and do a considerable execution upon the poor Corn. Many are undone by this scurvy Vermin. They never suspect the coming of any Creature, but presently save themselves by flight at the least discovery or appearance of Man or Beast. It is remarkable, what hath been observed of them, that he that comes

comes first to a Tree, he skips, and seizes upon a bow; which he labours to bend to the Ground, then all his companions do follow, and run upon the Tree over his Back that comes first to the place. Here are many strange Insects, and Birds of divers colours. There is one remarkable, that our English call a *Bee eater*, It is Red, Blew, White, Yellow, Green, and very handsomely painted with divers colours: It appears in the Months of *April, May, June, July*, the hottest Months of the Year. They pursue the swarms of Bees, and devour them, and have a cry much like a Frogg. They dwell in the Land during the Rains, and come to the Sea-coast in Summer & Spring. Here are also excellent *Roots*, that are brought from the East and West *Indies* to us, such as do fill the Shops of our Druggists. Were that Country in the hands of an ingenious and laborious People, it is not to be doubted, but that it would furnish the rest of the World with excellent Productions; But since the Conquest of the Country by the *Arabs*, War and Oppressions have hindered the Inhabitants from the improvement of their Soil.

Errata.

Page 1. Line 5. for request, read *exped*: p. 4. l. 22. for race, r. far: p. 5: l. 16, for from r. into p. 7. l. 18. for twelve, *sixteen*.

F I N I S.